

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:TNILES:JL
APPROVED BY AF:RMMOOSE
IO:GBHELMAN
AF:DPETTERSON
S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

-----089366 070022Z /21

O 062311Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 143294

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA; POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH
BOTH A OR FOURIE

REFS: (A) CAPE TOWN 1115; (B) LUSAKA 2005; (C) USUN 2233
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FOR EDMONDSON FROM MOOSE

1. IN LIGHT OF KAUNDA'S RELATIVELY OPTIMISTIC REPORT (REF.
B) ON HIS JUNE 3-4 MEETINGS WITH NUJOMA AND HIS PLANS TO
MOVE AHEAD WITH FRONT LINE SUMMIT, SOUTH AFRICAN INTENTION
TO PROCEED WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF NAMIBIAN VOTER REGISTRATION

ON JUNE 8 SEEMS PARTICULARLY DISRUPTIVE. IMPACT OF SUCH A MOVE BY THE SAG ON ATMOSPHERE OF FRONT LINE SUMMIT CAN ONLY SERVE TO REDUCE POSSIBILITY THAT AFRICANS WILL BE ABLE TO BRING NUJOMA AROUND TO A MORE FLEXIBLE POSITION ON CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL. WE RECOGNIZE THAT IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO ARRANGE PRIVATE DISCUSSION WITH FOURIE OR BOTHA PRIOR TO PROJECTED SAG ANNOUNCEMENT JUNE 8. IN ADDITION, IN ORDER TO AVOID GIVING SAG IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE CONTINUALLY BEGGING THEM TO REFRAIN FROM IMPLEMENTING THEIR ULTIMATUMS ON NAMIBIA, IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF APPROACH OUTLINED BELOW COULD BE FOLDED INTO DISCUSSION OF OTHER ISSUES.

2. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO MAKE PRIVATE FOLLOW-UP APPROACH TO EITHER FOURIE OR BOTHA, YOU SHOULD POINT OUT TO THEM THAT:

A) WE NOW HAVE REASONABLY FIRM REPORT THAT THE FRONT LINE STATES WILL BE MEETING ON NAMIBIA AROUND JUNE 9;

B) WHILE THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT THIS MEETING WILL RESULT IN SWAPO'S AGREEMENT TO OUR PROPOSAL THERE IS SOME BASIS FOR HOPE THAT PROGRESS WILL BE MADE;

C) CONSEQUENTLY, SOUTH AFRICAN ANNOUNCEMENT OF VOTER REGISTRATION, COMING AS IT MAY VERY SHORTLY BEFORE FRONT CONFIDENTIAL

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LINE SUMMIT, WOULD HAVE VERY UNDESIRABLE IMPACT ON THAT MEETING AND SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCES POSSIBILITY OF POSITIVE OUTCOME;

D) IN VIEW OF SAG'S INTEREST IN SWAPO ACCEPTANCE OF CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL, WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT SAG WOULD PROCEED WITH A STEP GENERALLY REGARDED AS NOT CONDUCIVE TO ACHIEVING THIS OBJECTIVE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUMMIT MEETINGS, VOTER REGISTRATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE143294
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TNILES:JL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780236-1041
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780689/aaaacyt.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0cbae390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 CAPE TOWN 1115, 78 LUSAKA 2005, 78 USUN NEW YORK 2233
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2465176
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA; POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH BOTHA OR FOURIE
TAGS: PORG, PDEV, SF, WA, TZ, MZ, BC, ZA, AO, SWAPO, (NUJOMA, SAM)
To: CAPE TOWN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0cbae390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014